U.S.S.N. 10/613,251

2

03966 (LC 0128 PA)

In the claims:

 (Currently Amended) A tuned vibration absorbing system for a seat system comprising:

at least one <u>seat system vibration absorbing</u> flexible extension member coupled to the seat system; and

at least one suspended element coupled to said at least one flexible extension member;

said at least one flexible extension member and said at least one suspended element configured to absorb vibration within the seat system.

- 2. (Original) A system as in claim 1 further comprising:
- at least one seat system attachment mechanism coupled between the seat system and said at least one flexible extension member.
 - 3. (Original) A system as in claim 2 further comprising:

at least one housing coupled to said at least one seat system attachment mechanism and containing said at least one flexible extension member and said at least one suspended element.

- 4. (Original) A system as in claim 3 wherein said at least one seat system attachment mechanism comprises a threaded portion for threading said at least one housing thereon.
- (Original) A system as in claim 3 wherein said housing is at least partially filled with a fluid.
 - 6. (Original) A system as in claim 2 further comprising:

at least one vessel coupled to said at least one seat system attachment mechanism and containing said at least one flexible extension member, said at least one suspended element, and a fluid.

- 7. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim 2 wherein said at least one seat system attachment mechanism comprises a tubular clamping mechanism.
- 8. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one flexible extension member and said at least one suspended element have a

U.S.S.N. 10/613,251

3

03966 (LC 0128 PA)

natural frequency that is approximately equal to natural frequency of the seat system.

- 9. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one flexible extension member and said at least one suspended element are integrally formed as a single unit.
- (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one flexible extension member is noncylindrical in shape.
- 11. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said at least one flexible extension member comprises:
- a first rectangular cross-sectional surface area having a corresponding first bending moment; and
- a second rectangular cross-sectional surface area having a corresponding second bending moment.
- 12. (Original) A system as in claim 11 wherein said first bending moment is directly related to a fore and aft natural frequency of the seat system and said second bending moment is directly related to a lateral natural frequency of the seat system.
 - 13. (Currently Amended) A seat system comprising:a tuned vibration absorbing system comprising;

a housing;

- a seat system attachment mechanism coupled to a seat frame;
- a flexible extension member at least partially contained within said housing and coupled to said seat system attachment mechanism; and a suspended element coupled to said flexible extension member.
- 14. (Original) A system as in claim 13 wherein said seat system attachment mechanism is coupled to an upper portion of the seat system.
- 15. (Original) A system as in claim 13 wherein said seat system attachment mechanism is coupled to an upper portion of a seat back of the seat system.

U.S.S.N. 10/613,251

4

03966 (LC 0128 PA)

- 16. (Original) A system as in claim 13 wherein said seat system attachment mechanism threads into a seat frame of the seat system.
- 17. (Currently Amended) A method of designing and manufacturing a seat system having a tuned vibration absorbing system comprising:

designing the tuned vibration absorbing system having at least one flexible extension member and at least one seat system vibration absorbing suspended element that absorb vibration within the seat system;

manufacturing the tuned vibration absorbing system; and coupling the tuned vibration absorbing system to the seat system.

- 18. (Original) A method as in claim 17 wherein designing the tuned vibration absorbing system comprises designing said at least one flexible extension member and said at least one suspended element to have a natural frequency that is approximately equal to a natural frequency of the seat system.
- 19. (Original) A method as in claim 17 wherein designing the tuned vibration absorbing system comprises:

tuning a first rectangular cross-sectional surface area of said at least one flexible extension member to have a first bending moment; and

tuning a second rectangular cross-sectional surface area of said at least one flexible extension member to have a second bending moment.

20. (Original) A method as in claim 17 further comprising: determining seat system design features;

determining mass of the seat system in response to said design features;

determining stiffness of the seat system in response to said design features;

determining natural frequency of the seat system in response to said mass and said stiffness; and

designing the tuned vibration absorbing system in response to said natural frequency of the seat system.